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Approved For Release 2001/03/06 : CIA-RDP82-00457R00740060

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

INTELLOFAX 13

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 9 MAY 51

SUBJECT Activity at Carl Zeiss, Jena

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE 25X1A

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

ACQUIRED 25X1A

SUPPLEMENT TO 25X1A
REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

DATE OF INFO. 25X1A

1. As a special project within the Five Year Plan, a telescope with a lens 2 meters in diameter is presently under construction at Zeiss Jena. The telescope is to be mounted in the Berlin-Babelsberg observatory. Those responsible for this project at Zeiss Jena are Dr. Hartwig, astronomer, Jensch, formerly head of the astronomical observatory in Sonneberg Thuringia, and Walther Richter, in charge of the mechanical construction.

2. Prof. Schuster has completed the design and construction of one electronic microscope, which is now expected to go into mass production at Zeiss Jena. Schuster worked with Dr. Klimo in the quartz laboratory at Zeiss Jena during World War II. In 1946 the latter was sent to Russia where he is reportedly employed in Leningrad. It has been rumored among Zeiss Jena employees for some months that Dr. Schuster is eventually to replace Geheimrat Harting as top scientific director of the Jena plant.

3. One of Zeiss Jena's principal bottle-necks is the lack of industrial diamonds necessary for the grinding of lenses. Before he left the Jena plant in the summer of 1950, Carl Blatt was the most capable diamond polishing technician there. (Blatt is reportedly now employed by the Zeiss firm in Oberkochen, Württemberg, West Germany.) Blatt's successor at Jena, one Kleindienst, and Dr. Gauso, chief Zeiss Jena mineralogist, make occasional trips to West Berlin and West Germany to inspect diamonds which Zeiss Jena is interested in purchasing. In West Berlin they have contacted a Dutch diamond salesman by the name of Jan Ziegler.

4. In December 1950 the Soviet order for 200 units of the A-1 aeronautic training device was completed and shipped. Shortage of argon had delayed completion of this order. The entire plant section, under Kurt Müller, which has been employed in the production of the A-1 device, is now being prepared for work on a new project.

5. The new Zeiss project, also under Kurt Müller's direction, is the development and production of an optical projection device for the correction of aerial photographs. Adjustments are made for errors as a result of changing altitudes, direction, and slant of the airplane on which the camera has been mounted. This device was previously produced by Zeiss Jena during World War II under the firm title, Carl Zeiss Acropliograph GmbH.

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Document No. 5
No Change In Class.
 Declassified
Class. Changed To: TS **S** **①**
Auth.: HR 70-2
Date: 09 AUG 1978
By: 24

Approved For Release 2001/03/06 : CIA-RDP82-00457R007400600005-3